

ABSTRACT**LIFTING DEVICE**

5 A lifting device suitable for assisting the elderly, invalids or those recuperating from surgery to rise from a seated position to a standing position includes a rigid base (2) connected by a hinge (4) to a rigid seat (3). A closed bag (5) is interposed between and is secured to the base (2) and seat (3). By inflating the bag (5) the seat may be raised from a substantially horizontal position to a raised position to assist a seated person to rise to a standing position. A cushion (17)
10 may be provided on the seat (3). The device may be used in reverse to assist a user in moving from a standing position to a seated position. A suitable inflation pump and control gear is provided to admit air to and remove air from the bag (5) via a tube (12).

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Figure 2